

Date: Sunday, January 10th, 2016

Free Beginner/Intermediate Tele Clinics **New this year - **Two Advanced Mini-Clinics**

Location: Ski Santa Fe

Leader: Barry Ritchey, 505-238-8123, barryxwind@msn.com

Cost? Instruction is free, you buy a lift ticket and try to sustain a smile. Class size is limited, call to reserve a slot.

Clinic Format - AM Beginner, 9:30-11:30; PM Intermediate, 1-3 PM; **Advanced Skills per below.

AM Beginner Tele-requisites - feel comfortable riding a chairlift and being able to control speed [wedge] on a groomed 'green' beginner run. It's OK to still feel a wee bit of contempt for the tele turn. The lesson will progress, based on student skill. Terrain will be groomed greens, perhaps blues if smiles are still showing. After lunch, the morning students are free to go out on their own and apply what they have [hopefully] learned.

PM Intermediate Tele-requisites - the above prerequisites and feeling more 'love' than 'hate' in that tele relationship. You probably aren't yet driven to track-out all the black runs, but have perhaps made it down blue runs without too much mayhem. On/off-piste terrain TBD by group consensus.

****NEW THIS YEAR—Advanced Skills Clinics** over the **11:30 - 1PM** lunch [I usually just stuff my pockets and ski during lunch] and at **3PM - close**. I'll just ski, at a less-talk and more-ski pace, and we can work on advanced skills above and beyond the Beginner and Intermediate lessons.

Meeting Time & Place

Time >> Beginner—9:30AM, Intermediate—1PM, Advanced—immediately following the Beg/Int clinics.

Place >> Flat area between Chair 1 [the base quad chair] and Skier Services/Lost-n-Found. Look for me, dressed in an orange jacket and black helmet perhaps sporting a skunk tail.

Feel free to take a warm-up run [or two], but don't be late. It's always OK to show up early. Have your lift ticket, gear on and be ready to go. For those driving from ABQ, allow at least 1-1/2 hours to drive up to the ski area. Add more time for active weather. It always seems at least 30 minutes evaporate between arriving in the parking lot and getting on the lift.

Gear - I strongly suggest you beg, borrow, steal [and return afterwards] *wide metal-edged skis and 2-3 buckle plastic boots*, if you don't already own comparable gear. If you are trying to learn tele in leather boots and/or on skis that resemble a pair of chop sticks, do yourself a favor and try contemporary gear. Learning new ski technique is so much easier on a wider, single-cambered ski, with generous sidecut. How wide? 80-100 mm in the waist wide. No waxless skis either. It's fine to show up sporting a fine pair of wool knickers, style points for bamboo poles too, but if you're donning leather boots and skinny sticks, you have been warned!

Ski Santa Fe Web Site: <http://skisantafe.com>

Lift tix: Full/half day* = \$72/\$55 [ouch!] Seniors = \$55/\$55 *Not much [or none] of a half-day break, so I suggest you bite the bullet and ski all day.

Tele rentals: If you have access to Kirtland AFB, the Rec Center [and Sandia Labs SERP] rents very nice tele/BC gear. [Note: Both REI locations in NM do NOT rent tele gear. Feel free to let REI know how you feel about that.]

Let it snow,

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